

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 16 lines 3-20 with the following amended paragraph:

The NBS protocol is introduced in Xiaoye Jiang et al., “Network Block Services for Client Access of Network-Attached Data Storage in an IP Network,” U.S. Patent Application Ser. 10/255,148 filed Sep. 25, 2002, incorporated herein by reference. This protocol is extended for snapshot copy and replication of storage objects, as further described below with reference to FIGS. 9 to 11. Details of a snapshot copy facility are described in Keedem U.S. Patent 6,076,148 issued June 13, 2000, incorporated herein by reference; and Philippe Armangau et al., “Data Storage System Having Meta Bit Maps for Indicating Whether Data Blocks are Invalid in Snapshot Copies,” U.S. Patent Application Ser. 10/213,241 filed Aug. 6, 2002, incorporated herein by reference. Details of an IP replication facility are described in Raman, et al., U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 10/147,751 filed May 16, 2002, entitled “Replication of Remote Copy Data for Internet Protocol (IP) transmission,” incorporated herein by reference; and Philippe Armangau et al., Data Recovery With Internet Protocol Replication With or Without Full Resync, U.S. Patent Application Ser No. 10/603,951 filed June 25, 2003, incorporated herein by reference. The snapshot copy or IP replication facility, for example, operates on a file system (88 in FIG. 12) compatible with the UNIX and MS Windows operating systems. In this case, the snapshot copy facility 76 or the IP replication facility 77 accesses the storage object container file 84 through the UxFS file system 44 in the data mover 26.

Please replace the paragraph on page 25 lines 4-8 with the following amended paragraph:

The MSG opcode is used to send a message from the NBS driver to the NBS server. For example, messages could be sent to control an IP replication process. For example, IP replication parameters would include a network name or IP network address of a target file server to which the container file (84 in FIG. 12) or container file system (88 in FIG. 12) would be replicated.